

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Towns et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1712
)	
Application No.: 10/090,474)	Examiner: unknown
)	
Filed: March 4, 2002)	
)	
For: POLYMER PREPARATION)	
)	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please further amend the above application as follows:

In The Claims

Please rewrite claims 21, 22, 24, 25 and 27 as follows:

21. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises coupling in a reaction mixture an aromatic monomer having at least one boron-derivative functional group selected from the group consisting of a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group, and an aromatic monomer having at least one reactive halide functional group; wherein the reaction mixture comprises a catalytic amount of a catalyst suitable for catalysing the coupling of the aromatic monomers, and an organic base including a tetraalkylammonium entity in an amount sufficient to convert the at least one boron-derivative functional group into $-BX_3^-$ anionic group(s), wherein X is independently selected from the group consisting of F and OH.

22. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises preparing under non-coupling conditions an organic cation salt of an aromatic boronate monomer